

You've got Kids

Cindy McGlynn

▶ Showers. Flowers. April's got plenty to love, including a favourite fairy tale from a celebrated ballet company, pretty and tough kids' clothing, great green books for Earth Day, film fun for kids, and sugar – exploding sugar. How sweet is that?



THE SLEEPING BEAUTY

With ornate sets and stunning costumes, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet's touring production of *The Sleeping Beauty* is dreamy. What's more, this lavish ballet is set in two compact acts, each clocking in at a single kid-friendly hour. It tells the story of Princess Aurora, of course, but also features cameos by other fairy-tale folk, including Little Red Riding Hood and Puss in Boots. With music by Tchaikovsky and the original choreography of Marius Petipa, this production is a great way to introduce cartoon-princess lovers to a classical art form.

Ottawa, April 4-6,
National Arts Centre, Southam Hall

Belleville, April 8, The Empire Theatre

Kingston, April 9, The Grand Theatre

Mississauga, April 10, Living Arts Centre

Hamilton, April 12, Hamilton Place

London, April 13,
RBC Theatre at Budweiser Gardens



NOT JUST ANOTHER PRETTY DRESS

It started small, designer Devorah Miller says of the colourful kids' clothing she creates in Toronto. Pieces were hand-cut on her kitchen table and Miller sewed them herself. But the lovely, sturdy and often organic creations took off and Red Thread Designs are now lovingly sewn in larger small batches, and sold in boutiques across the country and online. "This isn't throwaway clothing," says Miller, whose designs are inspired by the exuberance of children. "I love that I can play with colour without worrying about fashion, because kids are naturally drawn to what they love, not what fashion dictates they should wear." (Check out her caterpillar dress, ingeniously cut to go from baby frock to toddler jumper to young girl's swing top.) Boys' and girls' clothing, from infants to children's size 12. RedThreadDesign.ca

